

door Owl of Europe (*Strix flammea*), a comparison of several specimens with the European bird satisfies Colonel Sykes that Dr. Horsfield was right in separating it. Neither sex is unspotted white underneath, nor has the Indian species a white disc. Sexes alike, with the exception of the plumage of the female being a shade or two lighter than that of the male. Length, inclusive of tail, 17 inches: tail 5 inches. One of Colonel Sykes's specimens was captured alive while lying on its back on the ground, defending itself against the attacks of a body of crows. *Irides* reddish dark brown.

20. *STRIX INDRANEE*. *Strix capite suprâ pallidè brunneo, plumis albido marginatis; dorso imo, pteromatibusque rufescenti-brunneis, fasciis albis fusco marginatis notatis; dorso medio, ptilis, remigibus caudâque brunneis, his rufescenti fasciatis, hâc fasciis albidis gracilibus notatâ, ad apicem albo marginatâ; gulâ crissoque albescentibus; abdomine subrufo, brunneo graciliter fasciato; regione circumoculari nigrâ; disco rufo, brunneo marginato.*

*Irides* rufo-brunneæ. Longitudo corporis 21 unc., caudæ 9. Inhabits the woods of the Ghauts: rare. The specimen described is a young bird, and a female.

#### Genus *Ketupa*, Less.

21. *Ketupa Leschenaulti*, Less., *Traité d'Ornith.* p. 114. *Strix Leschenaulti*, Temm., *Pl. Col.* 20. *Scops? Leschenaulti*, Steph., vol. 13. p. 53.

A rare bird in the Dukhun. Independently of the naked legs of this bird, its aquiline aspect authorizes its separation from the genera with which it had been placed previously to M. Lesson's arrangement.

#### Genus *Noctua*, Sav.

22. *Noct. Indica*, Frankl. *Peenglah* of the Mahrattas.

*Irides* King's yellow. Sexes alike. Mice and beetles found in the stomach. An exceedingly noisy bird, and frequently heard chattering during the day-time in dense trees. The Mahrattas have a superstition respecting this species; and a class of persons, called from it *Peengleh*, live on the credulity of the people by pretending to consult it, and predict events. Length, inclusive of tail,  $9\frac{1}{2}$  to 11 inches: tail  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 inches. Numerous in the Dukhun, and found in families of four or five.

### ORDER II. INSESSORES, *Vigors.*

#### Tribus FISSIROSTRES, *Cuv.*

#### Fam. *Meropidæ*.—Genus *Merops*, Linn.

23. *Merops viridis*, Linn. *Indian Bee-eater*, Lath. *Guépier à collier de Madagascar*, Buff.